

HOW GOLD IS TRANSPORTED

Uncle Sam Carries \$20,000,000 from San Francisco to New York in the Mails.

The Express Company Wanted \$60,000 for Doing the Work, but the Government Handed It at a Cost of Only \$3,500.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—The exact cost of carrying the big gold shipment across the continent is not known at the Treasury Department, but Assistant Treasurer Whelpley says that it will be less than \$8,500, he thinks. It was hauled by the railroads under their regular mail contracts, for it came through as registered mail. The assistant treasurer at San Francisco had five hundred boxes made especially for the shipment. Then there were the personal expenses of the fifty-one men who went out to San Francisco and guarded the treasure on its way East. These were the principal expenditures. The laborers at the mint at San Francisco were pressed into service to pack and load the money, the regular employees of the railway mail service guarded it, the arms which the guard carried were taken from the arsenal by order of Secretary Elkins, at the personal request of Secretary Foster, and the mail wagons of the Postoffice Department were used to carry the boxes to and from the cars.

The lowest bid which the Treasury Department could obtain from an express company for hauling the money was \$6,000. This, of course, would have included the risk of loss in transit by accident or theft. The Wells-Fargo Company, which controls all the territory west of the Missouri, made this rate. The United States Express Company, which has the contract for hauling all of the coin and currency shipped by the Treasury Department between points east of the Missouri, would have made a better rate if it could, but west of the Missouri the United States Express Company would have had to do business with the Wells-Fargo people, and they refused to make any better terms. That is why the Treasury Department does its own business west of the Missouri. It has handled many shipments from San Francisco before, through the railway mail service, to avoid the necessity of paying the exorbitant Wells-Fargo rates. These have come through under special guard, invariably without accident.

WOULD HAVE COST \$65,520. The representative of the United States Express Company here is a son of the Hon. Thomas C. Platt, of New York. He has an office in the basement of the Treasury building. "We could not carry the twenty-million-dollar shipment," said Mr. Platt today, "because we could not make rates with the Wells-Fargo company. If it had been within our territory we would have made the department a special rate for handling so large a sum. Under our contract rate—let me see." Mr. Platt took a pad of paper and figured for a minute. "At the mileage rate," he continued, "figuring on 3,200 miles, we would have been entitled to \$65,520 for the haul. But on an extraordinary shipment like that we would have made some special rate if we could have handled it."

The largest gold shipment handled by the United States Express Company since it took the contract for the government's work about three years ago, was \$7,000,000, taken from Philadelphia to New York recently. This was kept extremely quiet at the time of shipment. The gold was put into two of the company's safes in a special car and six or eight men were sent along to guard it. The shipment did not attract any marked attention. The people of Philadelphia are not so much interested in keeping their gold at home as are the people of San Francisco. The people of San Francisco object to having their gold sent East. Every time a shipment is made, they watch the sub-treasury, estimate the amount of coin taken, follow it to the station and then have the amount and the number of the car telegraphed all over the country, presumably to make the shipment more dangerous and so discourage shipments in the future. The treasury people have a strong suspicion that the Wells-Fargo Express Company made public the particulars of this last shipment out of revenge because they did not get the contract.

The amount paid to the United States Express Company for the \$7,000,000 shipment was \$3,500. This was for a two-hour trip on the railroad and carrying the coin in the wagons of the express company between the sub-treasury and the railroad. The cost, it will be seen, was much less than the total cost of handling the big shipment from the east, but on that shipment the government took its own risk of loss. On the seven-million shipment, the express company took the risk, and if any part of the money had been missing at the end of the journey the company would have had to make it good. The United States Express Company is only \$300,000, but as it is a private partnership concern and not a corporation, the individual stockholders are responsible for every dollar of its indebtedness, and among them are Calvin S. Brice, Russell A. Alger and Thomas C. Platt.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST THEFT.

Gold coin is easy to handle, though gold is a very heavy metal. A million dollars in gold weighs only two tons, but the risk in handling gold is much greater than in handling silver. There is no danger of losing any considerable amount of silver by theft because it is so bulky. The only danger of loss is by accident—train wreck, for example. But there is a much greater chance of loss in handling currency. The largest shipment of currency which the express company has handled was \$15,000,000, shipped from Washington to New York three years ago. It was in bills of large denomination, and the entire amount was placed in two small boxes. These were locked and sealed and put in one of the regular safes of the company under special guard. These safes are of the best make and they are bolted to the floor of the car. They have removable disks—big black and white things fully six inches in diameter. When the safe is locked at the beginning of the run the dial is removed, and no one without a duplicate dial could work the combination of the safe even if he knew it. This is only one of the many devices employed to circumvent dishonest employees and others. A device which will be put into operation before long (the contracts for making it are now on file) is an improved money-bag. The money-bag now used by express companies is sealed with wax at the beginning of the run and the integrity of the seal and the integrity of the bag (which is seamless) the company relies for preserving the contents intact in transit. The new device is a padlock for fastening the money-bag. The padlock has a straight post instead of a ring at the top, and this fits into an oval hole in the ring, which confines the neck of the bag. The padlock turns in this oval hole and fastens across it. On the front of the padlock is a multiplying register with four openings for the fingers. Each time the lock is thrown it causes this multiplying device to register, and when once it has registered it must be forward to the next number. It can never go back. For example, the first time that the padlock is used it registers 0001, the second time 0002, the third time 0003, and so on. It keeps on registering until it reaches 9999, when it goes back to 0000 and begins over again. Each padlock has a permanent number. When a bag is started out on a route it is registered on the trip sheet and the messenger gives a receipt for it, as, say, "Lock No. 1; Register No. 1." The next messenger receiving it receipts for it as "Lock No. 1; Register No. 1," and so it goes down the run towards its destination. If it gets to the receiving office with the seal broken, the padlock and the multiplying register intact and the lock registering the number with which it started, it is dollars to wafers that it contains what was put in it at the beginning of its journey. If the register number is found to have changed, it can be traced back to the messenger who delivered it with, say, the register number "2." That messenger will be held responsible for the contents of the bag.

The United States Express Company has had very few losses since it took the government contract. The last was a great \$7,000. This immunity is due partly to the company's precautions, partly to the

honesty of its employees and partly to its reputation for spending unlimited sums to bring a thief to justice.

REAL-ESTATE MARKET.

Big Deal in Brightwood Lots, but Little Else is Doing.

The only real-estate transaction of any moment that has taken place during the past week has been the purchase by Byram & Cornelius of 167 lots in Brightwood from the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company. The people of Brightwood are disposed to look upon this sale as the beginning of a boom for the town, for the purchasers will have a more immediate interest in the development of Brightwood than the far-away insurance company has had. The first thing that has happened in connection with the transfer has been to secure natural gas, as the new owners at once made a substantial contribution and brought the bonus up to the amount required by the gas company. The people of Brightwood have the hope that the influence of the new owners will aid them in getting a change from the mule system of street-railroad to the electric.

AND HERE THEY ARE AGAIN

Theatricals Opening Up in a Rather Sporadic Fashion This Season.

Questionable Experiment of Female Burlesque at the Grand—Primrose & West's Minstrels—Rentfrow's at the Park.

The opening of the regular theatrical season is not far distant now, and it is to be preceded, as is usually the case, by attractions of a varied character, that come but for a brief stay. The Grand will have two of these this week, and, as there has been a dearth in theatrical matters for the past three months, they are likely to be liberally patronized. On Tuesday evening next the Lilly Clay Gaiety Burlesque Company, an organization that comes around as regularly as the seasons, will give a performance, which promises a mingling of vaudeville, specialty, burlesque, and almost everything else in sight or "out of sight." Mr. Sam T. Jack, whose company this is, has a number of traveling organizations and this is credited with being the best of them. It includes forty performers, among them, Miss Emma Ward, a British burlesquer of high degree, who, by some mischance, got away from England without having to marry a lord; Miss Rose Hamilton, Miss Maie Warden, Miss Ida Nicolai, George De Helbin, a well-known comedian, Miss Maud Edson and others. The performance will include specialties by Miss Ward, Mazur and Abbeo, who do a remarkable acrobatic feat; Professor Morley and his dissolving views; Howley and Doyle, dancers; Veritch Brothers, gymnasts; the nautical extravaganza "Christie to Columbus," and the glittering burlesque "Mazeppa."

Next Friday and Saturday evenings and Saturday matinee Primrose & West's re-organized minstrels will provide "Music and Minstrelsy," as the show bills say, for the patrons of the Grand. The company is generally recognized as being the best, so far as the originality and artistic merit of its performances are concerned, and this year it is credited with having exceeded its previous efforts in this direction. The first part now represents a garden scene, with the decorations, costumes, etc., all Japanese, the effect being very picturesque. Besides Primrose and West other stars in the company are Billy Van, who seems to be the coming "black-face" comedian; Larry Dooley, F. W. Oakland, Morris Cronin, a clever Indian-club juggler, Abasco and Masand and others. The advance sale of seats for the minstrels will begin to-morrow morning. The company has just closed a long and successful summer engagement in Boston.

This Week at the Park.

The remodeled Park Theater has as successful an opening week as could be asked, for the "Barrel of Money" company that closed last night had a very profitable patronage. The attraction announced for this week is such a one as always proves popular at this house—for farce-comedy has its away there, as well as in high-priced theaters. Rentfrow's comedians, who begin a week's engagement there to-morrow afternoon, have an established reputation, for they are pioneers in this line of stage entertainment. The company includes J. N. Rentfrow, Jr., a good comedian; F. W. Fredricks, G. C. Weinberg, Charles Cosad, Mrs. J. N. Rentfrow, Miss Lottie Walters, Miss Bozie Stevens, Miss Jean Solten and others. The piece they are to present is entitled "Below Zero," which has no other mission than to make fun, and afford facilities for the introduction of singing, dancing and other specialties in which this company excels. There is already a good advance sale for the engagement. "Below Zero" will run all week, with the usual daily matinees.

Some Stage Notes.

The Grand will open its regular season Sept. 1 with Hoyt's "A Temperance Town." Louise Dempsey will play the queen and lead the Amazons with Hamilton's "Maurice." Alma Strong has also been engaged.

Vernona Jarbeau is negotiating for a piece that is now making a sensation at the Folies Francaises in Paris, entitled "The Twenty-eight Days of Clairette."

Miss Emma Juch is about to leave for Europe, where she will remain three years. Her first engagement is in London, where she will sing in concert and in oratorio in addition to her operatic work.

Dickson & Talbot's new theater, the Henrietta, at Columbus, O., will be opened early in September by Julia Marlowe. When completed the total cost of the \$250,000, and it will be the finest theater in the West.

Misses Lotta and Babe Hollywood leave to-day for New York to join the "Two Old Crooks" company. During the performance Lotta Hollywood will introduce a novel dance which will surpass the now popular "serpentine" dance.

Felix Middleton, the English songwriter, is now composing several new pieces which he will intrust to Lottie Gibson to bring out in America in a few weeks. He considers Miss Gibson one of the representative American songwriters.

Fay Templeton has finally made a contract for the coming season. She has been engaged by Hoyt & Thomas to play the part of the widow in the place of Lloyd in the traveling company which will present "A Trip to Chinatown."

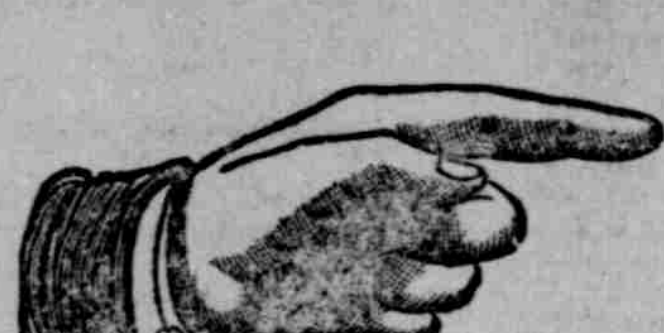
Eather Lyon, who played an ingenue part in "Hedonism," and Oscar Eagle, who was the Color Prescott in the same play, were married Wednesday night at the home of the bride, No. 33 West One-hundred-and-seventeenth street, New York.

On account of a sudden change in Maurice Barrymore's plans he will not be seen with Mme. Modjeska for some time to come. He will sail for London in a few days, where he will remain until November, when he will return in time to appear at New York with Mrs. Bernard-Bere at the New Manhattan Opera-house, Nov. 14.

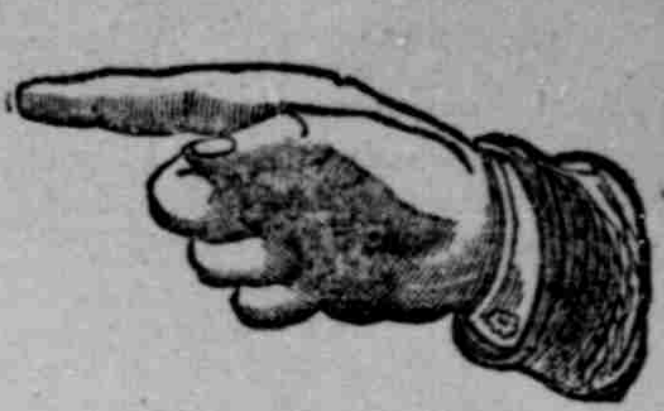
Among the few new attractions on the road this season is the play "The Millionaire," which has been purchased outright by Manager Hartz, of the Euclid-avenue Opera-house, Cleveland, O. It is a comedy drama by Edwin Milton Royle and was first produced at the Standard Theater, New York, last spring, where it had a successful run.

Edward Sothen will begin his sixth annual engagement at the Lyceum Theater next week with a production of Marguerite Morington's new comedy, "Captain Lettair-blair." He will be supported by Morton Selton, C. P. Fleton, Charles H. Barry, Roland Hackett, Lawrence Clarke, Tully Marshall, Virginia Harned, Jennie Dunbar and Kate Pattison Selton.

The Clither quartet that was so great a feature with "A Straight Tip" the last two seasons is to go this year with George H.



The Progress



STILL CUTTING PRICES

Nothing new about that, to be sure, but something entirely in accord with their previous record of making low prices to move goods. We are not believers in carrying goods from one season to another, and no light-weights will be carried from this season. We are naming prices that move them very fast. In connection with our great MEN'S and BOYS' SUIT SALE we will, commencing to-morrow, sell

YOUR CHOICE OF OUR FINEST AND BEST TAILOR-MADE PANTS

FOR \$3.95.

Regular prices were \$8, \$7, \$6 and \$5. They are new goods, well made, stylishly cut and of the latest fabric. Take choice this week for \$3.95.

MEN'S AND BOYS' SUIT SALE WILL BE CONTINUED THIS WEEK SEE SHOW WINDOW.

The Progress

628 West Washington St.

Murray's Dazzler company. Emma Hanley, who played Kitty Dolan in "A Straight Tip," is also in the Dazzler company. So there will be a degree of familiarity in the personal of the new farce-comedy that will make it go on individual popularity.

Miss Kate Fletcher will leave for Boston in a few days to take the role of Juliette in the new play of "Fontenelle," written by J. M. K. New. Monte Cristo. Miss Fletcher's part is said to be an excellent one and specially suited to her. The play is of the Pempadour period in French history.

CIRCUS TO-MORROW.

Sells Brothers' Aggregation Will Amuse the Multitude.



HERE is still something to look forward to besides hot weather and suicides. Sells Brothers' circus will be here to-morrow! There will be a whole brood of elephants walk down the street! There will be a glittering parade full of big horses and little ponies, with funny clowns and tigers making double plays behind the iron bars of their cages. Bands will play, and every office window in town will bristle with eager, longing heads. Bald attorneys will walk leisurely to their windows, thumb their suspenders nervously, and "go" on to the end of the long complaint half finished and disappear. "If any man on important, very important, business, steps in, will him I am out of town," but the circus with important business knows better. He goes to the circus, finds his man in the center of a circus party, ladies and all, stationed at a respectable distance from the elephants, thoroughly enraptured. There is every reason why everybody should and do go to the circus, but the enumeration of them would stretch out as long as a circus bill board. The big show begins at 2 and 8 p. m. on Monday afternoon and night. The West Washington, Hawthorne and Hospital cars are the ones to take.

On Indianapolis improved real estate, with the privilege of prepayment.

AMUSEMENTS. GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

ONLY ONE TUESDAY, AUG. 16. NIGHT.

LILLY CLAY'S COLOSSAL GAIETY

BURLESQUE COMPANY In an entirely new bill of specialties and the Great Burlesque.

"MAZEPPA."

PRICES—Gallery 25c; Balcony 50c; Dress Circle, 75c; Orchestra and Boxes, \$1. Seats now on sale.

GRAND | EXTRA.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, AUGUST 19 and 20.

And Saturday Matinee. | The New Edition of

PRIMROSE & WEST'S

MINSTRELS

In a bill full of novelty. Prices: 25c, 50c, 75c and \$1. Seats now on sale.

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THE H. LIEBER COMPANY,

23 South Meridian St.

On exhibition, "In the Garden," by Ferdinand Heilbuth, Paris.

Magnificent Music.

You can hear it at both Parks this afternoon while enjoying a day in the woods. The electric trains will run every ten minutes, furnishing a nice, cool and refreshing ride. Row-boats and baby cabs for hire. The Switch-back Railroad will amuse you and you can get refreshments on the grounds.

PEARSON'S MUSIC - HOUSE

PIANOS

Easy Monthly Payments

82 and 84 N. Penn. St., Indianapolis

A TRIP TO PALESTINE

Leaves New York Sept. 3, ninety-two days' tour. A trip to Spain and Tangiers leaves New York Aug. 27, seventy-two days' tour. All traveling expenses included, first-class, seat for performance. L. M. JENKINS, 327 Broadway, New York.

AMUSEMENTS.

PARK THEATER

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THEATER IN THE WEST

A CORKER THIS WEEK.

THE OLD ORIGINAL

RENTFROW COMEDIANS

IN THE LATEST FARCE-COMEDY SCREAMER,

BELOW

The Funniest Play Ever Written.

A Show for Your Life. ZERO

"BELOW ZERO" is not a mere skeleton or frame work, arranged solely for the purpose of introducing specialties, and depending upon the latter entirely for success, but a legitimate Three-Act Comedy, with a strong plot, entirely original, as full of pure, refined fun, comical situations and blunders as it is possible for the mind to conceive, and at the same time is crowded from beginning to end with sparkling music, catchy songs, medleys, grotesque dancing, etc., etc., of rare merit.

POPULAR 10c, 20c, 30c. PRICES

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"M. & D." WROUGHT STEEL RANGES,

BEST IN MARKET. Family, Hotel and Boarding-house sizes. "QUICK-HEAT" Gasoline and Gas Stoves in great variety. "GATE CITY" Stone Filters. "THE MONT" Cast Ranges.

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INDIANAPOLIS STOVE CO., 71 & 73 South Meridian Street.

AS WE intend to make a number of changes in the arrangement of this store and need room, we will sell what REFRIGERATORS we have at greatly reduced prices.

LILLY & STALNAKER,

64 East Washington Street.

"BIZ" AND BOOM.

The thirsty days draw on apace, Find ever-expanding room. The soda fountain fizz, The struggling ice a leaping face, For he finds a home in "biz," Not a one a boom in "biz," So likewards goes the "biz" as Bryce, But "biz" that has a boom.

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